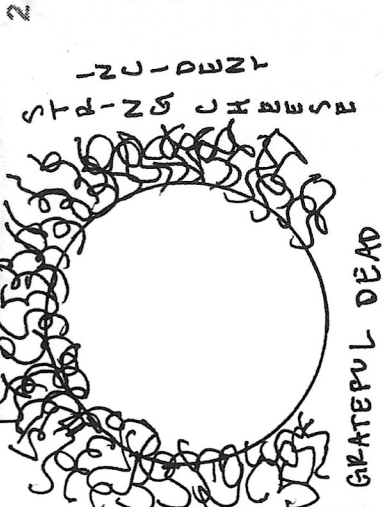
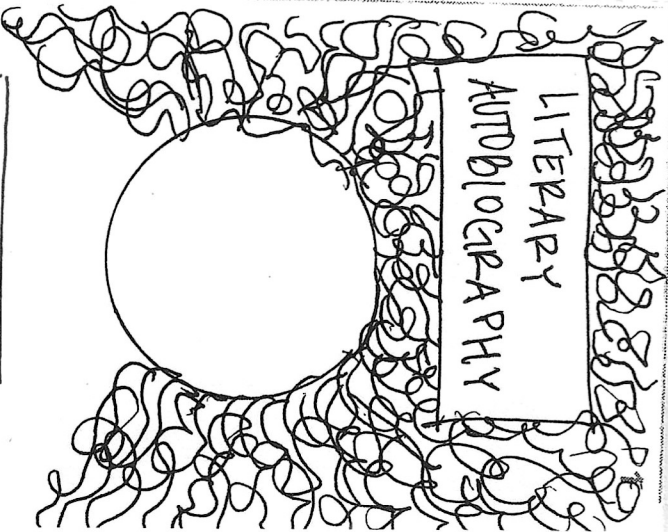


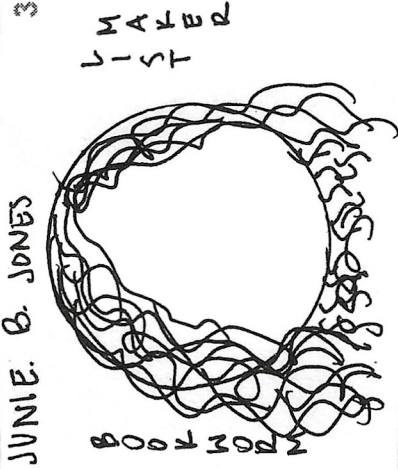
BY MOON CHILD



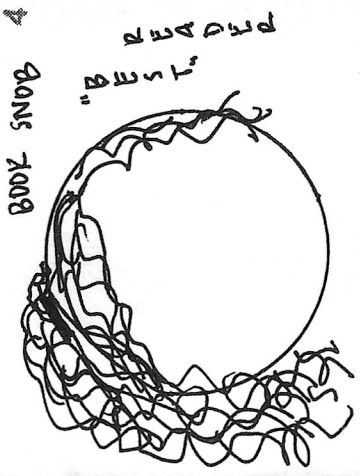
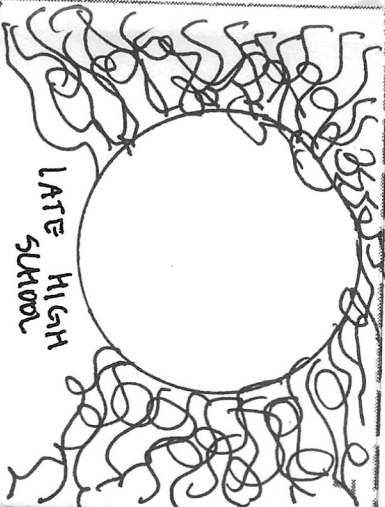
40 concerts and festivals

Before two years of age  
constantly traveling  
Being raised on lyrics  
Maybe it's why  
I can only think in poetry  
Sentences have always been  
too structured for the life  
I was raised in.

To perform my own writing &  
knowing ears  
other than my own  
were listening  
was the greatest experience  
I've ever had

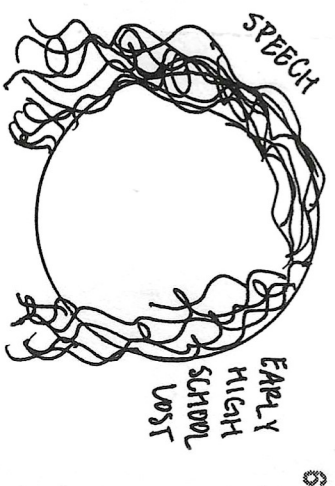


I loved the feeling of  
pen on paper  
which then translated to  
lists on top of lists  
Trying to organize every  
jumbled thought  
That was when my dreams  
First became lyrical



Fifth grade was the year  
my reading  
became a competition  
became a stressor activity  
became something I had to  
try and convince myself  
I enjoyed

Speech taught me HOW  
to use my voice  
but using it outside  
the confines of the activity  
was terrifying  
and exhilarating  
when I first stood  
on a stage →



When I fell back in love  
with reading  
I felt hard  
breaking every bone  
snapping every vein  
scratching skin's surface  
only allowing words to fill  
my empty spaces

I equate finding speech  
with finding  
my voice  
learning how to structure  
my thoughts  
love and organize poetry  
speech was the first time  
words made me feel  
POWERFUL